

BOARD OF SELECTMEN – APRIL 28, 2014

I. Call to Order

Chairman Vispoli reconvened the Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen to order at 7:22 PM in the Selectmen's conference room in the Town Offices. Present: Chairman Vispoli-Y and Selectmen Paul Salafia-Y, Brian Major-Y, Dan Kowalski-Y, Mary O'Donoghue-Y. Also present: Town Manager Reginald S. Stapczynski. The meeting was duly posted and cablecast live.

II. Executive Session

Chairman Vispoli called the meeting to order at 6:01 P.M. in the Selectmen's conference room. Dan Kowalski moved that the Selectmen vote to go into Executive Session for confidential legal advice with Town Counsel and to discuss the acquisition and value of real property and collective bargaining strategy and to return to Open Session and that the Chairman so declare an Open Session would be detrimental to the Town's strategy. The motion was seconded by Paul Salafia. Roll call: Chairman Vispoli-Y and Selectmen Paul Salafia-Y, Brian Major-Y, Dan Kowalski-Y, Mary O'Donoghue-Y. On a motion duly made and seconded, the Board adjourned from Executive Session at 7:19 P.M. to move to Open Session not to return to Executive Session. Roll call: Chairman Vispoli-Y and Selectmen Paul Salafia-Y, Brian Major-Y, Dan Kowalski-Y, Mary O'Donoghue-Y.

III. Opening Ceremonies

A. Moment of Silence/Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Vispoli led the meeting in a Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. Communications/Announcements/Liaison Reports

The Town Manager announced that the opening of Deyermund Sports Park was held on Saturday, April 5th and the ceremony went quite well. The Deyermund Family was pleased with the wonderful plaque and stone setting in honor of Buster Deyermund.

Town Clerk Larry Murphy reported that the Annual Town Meeting will begin on Monday, May 5th with a second night on Tuesday, May 6th. The meeting will be held in the J. Everett Collins Center. Should a third or fourth meeting be needed, the meetings will be held on Monday, May 12th and Tuesday, May 14th.

Selectman Major reminded everyone that Saturday, May 2nd is Zero Waste Day and recycling items can be brought to Brickstone Properties from 9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. and that Sunday, May 4th is the first annual Colleen Ritzer Road Race beginning at 9:00 A.M. in The Park to raise money for a scholarship in her memory.

Dan Kowalski encouraged the Board to attend the Andover Cultural Council's Grant Reception on Thursday, May 1st from 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM. At the Addison Gallery on the campus of Phillips Academy.

V. Citizens Petitions and Presentations - None

VI. Public Hearings

A. National Grid

Chairman Vispoli read the request from National Grid for permission to excavate for the purpose of constructing a line of underground electric conduits, including the necessary sustaining and protecting fixtures, under and across the following public ways: Abbot Bridge Drive, Eastman Road, Jefferson Lane and Hartford Circle: Install approximately 1400 feet of 2-3 inch and 700 feet of 4-3 inch conduits, 2 handholes and 2 pull boxes on Abbot Bridge Drive and install approximately 3000 feet of 2-3 inch conduits on Eastman Road, Jefferson Lane, Hartford Circle, Danforth Circle, Livingston Circle and Spruce Circle and install 1 handhole and 1 pull box on Eastman Road. The location begins at a point approximately 50 feet south of the centerline of the intersection of Central Street and Abbot Bridge Drive and continues approximately 4000 feet in a southeasterly direction as shown on Plan #14689679, dated April 18, 2014. It was noted that the request has been reviewed and approved by the Engineering Division of the Municipal Services Department subject to the condition that the petitioner obtains a street opening permit prior to the commencement of any construction.

There were several questions from neighbors in that area to be addressed by National Grid. The Board decided to continue the Public Hearing to Monday, May 19th to give National Grid an opportunity to meet with the neighbors.

B. Columbia Gas of Massachusetts

Selectman O'Donoghue motioned to approve the request of Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for permission to excavate for the purpose of replacing and/or extending its gas mains to make the following necessary house connections: 50 feet on Greenwood Road for the purpose of tying in a new 2" PE HP main that will feed Trinity Court (a private way) and to tie the new 2" PE 99psig main into the existing 8" BS 99psi gas main in Greenwood Road. The approximate location is shown on Plan #13-18933, dated April 18, 2014. It was noted that the request has been reviewed and approved by the Engineering Division of the Municipal Services Department subject to the condition that the petitioner obtains a street opening permit prior to the commencement of any construction. The motion was seconded by Paul Salafia and voted 5-0 to approve.

C. Storage of Inflammable License

On a motion by Selectman Major and seconded by Selectman Kowalski, the Board voted 5-0 to approve the request of Global Companies, LLC, 800 South Street, Suite 200, Waltham, MA, to keep and store additional inflammable products at 309 Lowell Street, Andover, by increasing the current capacity in underground storage of 3,000 gallons and a reduction in aboveground storage as follows: A total of 30,600 gallons of inflammable products: Aboveground: 50 gallons of motor oil and 50 gallons of antifreeze.

Underground: 500 gallons of Class II #2 fuel oil, 7,000 gallons Class II diesel fuel and 23,000 gallons of Class I gasoline. The request has been reviewed and approved by the Fire Chief and Town Clerk subject to the condition that all other requirements of the Town are met prior to the issuance of the license.

VII. Regular Business of the Board

A. Cable Television License Renewal

Attorney William August explained the license renewal process which begins thirty-six months prior to the expiration of the Town's contracts with Verizon and Comcast. The Town is required to hold a public hearing within six months of Verizon's Commencement Letter (Town has until August 2014) as part of the ascertainment procedure. For the renewal process, the Board's response by August 9th will be the commencement of gathering of information, listing of what has been done, and what the Town and Schools need. The Public Hearing and Ascertainment Hearing can be held on the same night. In the meantime, the Cable Advisory Committee should be fully staffed to facilitate the process. If there is not sufficient time to setup a Cable Advisory Committee, the Board of Selectmen will conduct the hearing. Comcast's contract runs out on October 4, 2017 and Verizon's on September 24, 2016, the renewal license is for ten years.

B. Health Insurance Report

Ken Lombardi, the Town's Insurance Consultant, reported on the Health Care Plan for the Town and the renewal process. A proposal was provided to analyze the options available, premium numbers, subscribers, etc. Andover would realize a 2% increase in premiums with MIAA assuming the same enrolment numbers. It has been a complicated process of renewals since acquiring the retired teachers from the GIC back to the Town's Health Care Plan. Tufts Health Insurance and MIAA were the only carriers who responded to the RFP that met the Town's needs and is inclusive of the Retiring Teachers premium numbers. Tufts rates were lower by 3% or as high as +2 with Blue Cross through MIAA but Blue Cross has a second year rate cap that Tufts does not. The Town has engaged the Public Employee Committee (PEC) in collective bargaining discussions. MIAA is to be notified by May 1st if there will be a change to the health insurance agreement. Kerry Costello, President of the AEA, expressed concerns about the health care changes and the effect on the retired teachers. The AEA also wants assurance that if a change is made to Tufts, that some of the funds acquired from the change will be returned to the school budget to alleviate the loss of 63 Instructional Assistants due to the budget cuts.

The Town Manager said the PEC is meeting on Tuesday, April 29th and an offer will be presented to them to review and vote. If the PEC does not vote to go with Tufts, the health insurance carrier will be Blue Cross/Blue Shield through MIAA.

C. FY-2015 Budget

Selectman Kowalski stated that in his desire to reduce taxes for residents he made a controversial proposal to offset expenses with Free Cash without reducing services and was not fully aware of the impact on the School Department's budget. He is displeased with late in the process budget changes and policy decisions.

Selectman Kowalski motioned to increase the School Department's budget by \$200,000.

Selectman Major would second the motion if it were amended to include a similar increase to the Town's budget in the amount of \$100,000 from taxation.

Discussion: The Town Manager is paying for the AYS Program Coordinator's position with line item reductions taken from the budget. Annie Gilbert noted that the School Committee has not voted a budget number yet. Residents John Zipeto and Diane Costagliola thanked the Board for the reconsideration. Mary Carbone indicated she is not happy with the proposed request.

Selectman O'Donoghue commented on the excellent budget review presented by Annie Gilbert at the League of Women's Forum and that the School Department would like to implement more of their Strategic Plan. She hopes that as the School Committee reorganizes things will be done more efficiently in the future – it is what Mrs. O'Donoghue is hearing, and pointed out that the School Department started the budget with a \$2M increase.

Selectman Major rescinded his second to Selectman Kowalski's motion and would second the original motion to return \$200,000 to the School Committee only.

Selectman Kowalski motioned the Board of Selectmen instruct the Town Manager to increase the School Department's Budget Allocation by \$200,000. The motion was seconded by Selectman Major. Roll Call: Chairman Vispoli-N and Selectmen Dan Kowalski-Y, B. Major-Y, Paul Salafia-N and Mary O'Donoghue-N. The motion failed on a vote of 2-3.

The Town Manager reviewed the plan to fund \$54,418 for the Andover Youth Services Program Coordinator's position within the Recommended Budget by reducing several budgets and reallocating the necessary funds needed.

Selectman Major motioned to approve the changes in line items as follows:

<u>Line Item/Budget Item</u>	<u>Change Amount</u>	<u>Rev. Appropriation</u>
3 -General Government-Personal Services	-\$20,000	\$ 5,391,742
4 –General Government-Expense (Legal)	-\$15,000	\$ 1,996,392
6 – Municipal Services-Expense	-\$19,418	\$ 5,477,1919
9 – DCS/AYS/ES-PS (AYS Prog Coordinator)	+\$54,418	\$ 1,324,303

The motion was seconded by Selectman Salafia and vote 4-1 to approve. Selectman O'Donoghue opposed.

Selectman Major motioned to approve the changes in line items for Obligations/Fixed Costs as follows:

<u>Line Item/Budget Item</u>	<u>Change Amount</u>	<u>Rev. Appropriation</u>
19 Technical Schools	+\$15,334	\$ 528,842
22 Unemployment Compensation	+170,000	\$ 320,000
24 Health Insurance (less 15 subscribers)	-170,000	\$ 15,670,957

The motion was seconded by Paul Salafia and voted 5-0 to approve.

D. Revenue and Expense Forecast Update

Finance Director Donna Walsh gave a brief review of the revenue and expense items noting there have been a few changes nothing that would significantly affect the budget. The Snow and Ice account is over by \$478,000, Free Cash will cover the outstanding balance leaving a new balance of \$1,000,000 in Free Cash and a balance of \$900,000 in the Stabilization Fund.

E. Andover Contributory Retirement Board

The Board discussed the need to have a policy discussion to determine if they want a member of the Board of Selectmen to sit on the Retirement Board. Currently, there are three candidates waiting to be interviewed. The Board agreed to continue this item to the meeting after Town Meeting.

F. Old Town Hall Organ Pieces

Selectman Major motioned to designate the old organ pieces at the Old Town Hall as surplus Town property for disposal. The motion was seconded by Selectman Salafia and voted 5-0 to approve.

G. Tennessee Gas Pipeline Project

The Board will hold a special meeting with representatives of the Tennessee Gas Pipeline project on Wednesday, June 18th with an alternative meeting date of Tuesday, June 17, 2014.

VIII. Consent Agenda

Selectman Kowalski moved that the following appointments by the Town Manager be approved:

DEPARTMENT	POSITION	RATE	EFF. DATE
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COMMUNITY SERVICES

Andrew J. Eckel	Counselor – PT	C2A/\$8.00/hr.	4/11/14
Courtney J. Heseltine	Cheering Instructor – PT	C2A/\$8.00/hr.	3/31/14

COMMISSION ON DISABILITY

Jennifer E. Samaras – Term expires 6/30/15

(v. J. Perry)

CONSERVATION OVERSEER

Frank Maldari – Merrimack River Area – Term expires 6/30/17

The motion was seconded by Selectman Major and voted 5-0 to approve.

IX. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meetings

On a motion by Selectman Kowalski and seconded by Selectman Major, the Board voted 4-0-1 to approve the following minutes: Selectman O'Donoghue abstained.

February 24, 2014 – Joint Meeting w/Finance Committee
 March 8, 2014 – Joint Meeting w/Finance Committee
 March 10, 2014 – Joint Meeting w/Finance Committee
 March 10, 2014 – Regular Meeting
 March 12, 2014 – Tri-Board Meeting w/Finance Committee & School Committee
 March 17, 2014 – Regular Meeting
 March 20, 2014 – Tri-Board Meeting/Finance Committee & School Committee
 March 24, 2014 – Joint Meeting w/Finance Committee
 March 24, 2014 – Regular Meeting
 March 26, 2014 – Re-organization Meeting
 March 31, 2014 – Joint Meeting w/Finance Committee
 March 31, 2014 – Regular Meeting
 April 2, 2014– Regular Meeting

X. Adjournment

At 9:50 P.M. on a motion by Selectman Major, seconded by Selectman Kowalski, the Board of Selectmen voted 5-0 to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Dee DeLorenzo
Recording Secretary

Documents: Public Hearing Notices for National Grid, Bay State Gas
Public Hearing Notice for Global Companies with Application for Storage
of Inflammable License